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Cultural awareness seminar offered to MLAs and senior officials (07/01/10)

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FREDERICTON (CNB) -- Aboriginal awareness seminars for members of the Legislative Assembly and senior officials will be held Jan. 10-11 in Fredericton. Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour Minister Ed Doherty, who is also Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs, is organizing the seminar.

"This promises to be an informative and enlightening session which will introduce members and officials to some of the historical and cultural issues surrounding aboriginal/provincial relations in New Brunswick," Doherty said. "The seminar should provide participants with a greater insight on important issues concerning aboriginals in our province."

Dr. Neil McDonald of Cross Cultural Consulting, Inc, will lead the session. A nationally recognized Canadian educator and published author, McDonald has been speaking to audiences on various social issues for many years and has published several books in the training field.

The seminar will include sections on Aboriginal Rights, Aboriginal Peoples in Canada, as well as Culture, Values and Attitudes.

The first section will explore the concept of Aboriginal rights as derived from the Royal Proclamation and recent Supreme Court decisions. The second section will explore the issue of treaty rights for aboriginal people in Canada. The last section will examine the relationship between cultural understandings and cross-cultural communications.

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